WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information reading/printing apparatus comprising:

a printing unit for printing information on a printing medium;

a reading unit for reading information;

a carriage for supporting and moving said printing unit and said reading unit; and

a position detector for detecting movement position of said carriage in left-to-right and right-to-left directions.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said printing unit and said reading unit are detachably provided on a main body of the apparatus.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an error adjustment unit for adjusting information reading position error that is produced owing to a discrepancy in carriage travelling direction between the left-to-right and right-to-left travelling directions.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a data-array correction unit for correcting a discrepancy in array of data, when information reading data is acquired, caused by a discrepancy in information reading direction between the left-to-right and right-to-left directions.

5. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said position detector includes said error adjustment unit.

6. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said position detector includes said data-array correction unit.

7. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said error adjustment unit is capable of adjusting the information reading position error using an adjustment resolution for which the minimum unit of resolution is a resolution that is a whole-number multiple of the resolution of said reading unit.

8. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said reading unit performs an information reading operation in movement of said carriage in the left-to-right and right-to-left directions.

9. The apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a reading position error correction unit for correcting information reading position error in the left-to-right and right-to-left directions at the time of information reading using said error adjustment unit, taking as a reference a correction position obtained by correcting printing position error produced by printing in the left-to-right direction and printing in the right-to-left direction when said apparatus functions as a printing apparatus.

10. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the information reading position error correction is

adjusted for every resolution using said reading position error correction unit in reading of information.

11. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said printing unit includes an ink-jet printhead.

12. An information reading apparatus comprising:

a reading unit for reading information;

a carriage for supporting and moving said reading unit; and

a position detector for detecting movement position of said carriage in left-to-right and right-to-left directions.

13. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said reading unit is detachably provided on a main body of the apparatus.

14. The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising an error adjustment unit for adjusting information reading position error that is produced owing to a discrepancy in carriage travelling direction between the left-to-right and right-to-left travelling directions.

15. The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising a data-array correction unit for correcting a discrepancy in array of data, when information reading data is acquired, caused by a discrepancy in information reading direction between the left-to-right and right-to-left directions.

16. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said position detector includes said error adjustment unit.

17. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said position detector includes said data-array correction unit.

18. The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said error adjustment unit is capable of adjusting the information reading position error using an adjustment resolution for which the minimum unit of resolution is a resolution that is a whole-number multiple of the resolution possessed by said reading unit.

19. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said reading unit performs an information reading operation in movement of said carriage in both of the left-to-right and right-to-left directions.

20. An information reading method comprising a step of detecting, in left-to-right and right-to-left directions, movement position of a carriage that supports and moves a reading unit for reading information.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein said reading unit is detachably provided on a main body of the apparatus.

22. The method according to claim 20, further comprising a step of adjusting information reading position error that is produced owing to a discrepancy in carriage travelling direction between the left-to-

right and reverse travelling directions.

23. The method according to claim 20, further comprising a step of correcting a discrepancy in array of data, when information reading data is acquired, caused by a discrepancy in information reading direction between the left-to-right and right-to-left directions.

24. The method according to claim 22, further comprising a step of adjusting the information reading position error using an adjustment resolution for which the minimum unit of resolution is a resolution that is a whole-number multiple of the resolution possessed by said reading unit.

25. The method according to claim 20, wherein said reading unit performs an information reading operation in movement of said carriage in both of the left-to-right and right-to-left directions.